

## Berkshire Intergroup News

August 2021

### **Anniversaries:**

Sheffield 12 & 12	August 25	Mark T (24 years)
Southern Berkshire Group	August 27	Ani B (9 yrs), Laura D (19 yrs), Kate K (30 yrs), George P (34 yrs), Margot T (37 yrs)
Keep it Simple Group (virtual)	August 28	Cara (1 yr), Linda B(1 yr), Ani (9 yrs)
Sober on Saturday (SOS)	August 28	Aruni F (35 yrs)
Watch Your Step	August 29	Ani B (9 yrs), Aruni F (35 yrs)

### **Recent meeting changes:\***

An effort has been made for changes listed to be as up-to-date and accurate as possible.

### *In person:*

Northern Berkshire Group	Sun, Tu 7:30 pm	Unvaccinated wear masks St. John's Church, 35 Park Street, Williamstown
Step Group Recovery	Th 7:00 pm	Unvaccinated wear masks St. John's Church, 35 Park Street, Williamstown
Ivory Keys	Tu-Sat noon	Masks required St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 67 East Street (Allen Street entrance), Pittsfield
Great Barrington Men's Group	Th 7:00 pm	Masks required, 40 max First Congregational Church, 251 Main Street, Great Barrington (basement entrance on the side of the building adjacent to the parking lot)
All Welcome Group	Sat 7:00	Masks required, no food/drink Fairview Hospital, 29 Lewis Avenue (1st Floor Conference Room), Great Barrington Please arrive early for screening by hospital staff
New discussion meeting	M, W, F noon	Unvaccinated wear masks, no coffee All Saints Episcopal Church, 59 Summer Street, North Adams

### *Virtual:*

Great Barrington Men's Step (new)	Sun, 7:00 pm	Zoom ID: 210 089 2154, no password
GB Women's	Th, 7:00 pm	Return to Zoom Zoom ID: 955 6506 8822, Password: womensmtg
Southern Berkshire	Fri, 8:00 pm	Hybrid on hold Zoom ID: 103 612 886, no password
Happy, Joyous and Free	Wed, 8:00 am	Hybrid on hold Zoom ID: 226 926 191, Password: 747303

\* Please note: A meeting's status and guidelines are likely to be contingent on what is determined by the CDC and state. Right now, everything is subject to change. Meeting

information can be easily updated by filling out the google form found on the berkshireaaintergroup.org home page.

**Events:**

*Western MA Intergroup Picnic*

There will be a picnic at the Moose Family Center on 244 Fuller Road in Chicopee on August 22 from 11 am to 6 pm. The picnic will be family oriented and food can be purchased there. A flyer can be found at [westernmassaa.org](http://westernmassaa.org).

*Area 31 Fall Assembly*

October 16 and 17. It will be hybrid. Workshops based on the Concepts will be held on Saturday (10 am to 4 pm) and elections will take place on Sunday (1 pm to 5 pm) as part of the business meeting. It will be held at: The Hitchcock Free Academy, 2 Brookfield Road, Brimfield, MA.

*MA State Convention*

November 13 (8 am to 8 pm) and 14 (8 am to noon). It will be virtual. More information will become available at [aamastateconvention.org](http://aamastateconvention.org). The next planning meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 28 at 7:00 pm. Write Mike B. at [altdelegate@area31aa.org](mailto:altdelegate@area31aa.org). Or, call or text him at (###) ###-#### for more information.

**FYI:**

*2022 General Service Conference*

The deadline for Proposed Agenda Item submissions by any individual, group, area, etc. is September 15, 2021. This provides an opportunity to make suggestions for the betterment of A.A. A NEW standardized submission form is available by a request sent to [berkshireintergroupnews@gmail.com](mailto:berkshireintergroupnews@gmail.com). It is available in English, French and Spanish.

*Area 31 General Service Committee*

All area committee meetings are now being held in a hybrid format. All are welcome. People can attend in person at 474 Pleasant Street in Holyoke or on Zoom. Go to [area31aa.org](http://area31aa.org) to find information about the various meetings and committees, when they meet and the Zoom ID numbers and passwords.

**Spotlight:**

*Cooperation with the Professional Community (C.P.C.)* is an important part of A.A. service. Many members of A.A. do not know how this works.

Almost all of us have been affected by some non-A.A. member who encounters alcoholics in the course of their profession. Doctors, nurses, judges, therapists, clergy and educators often are in a position to guide alcoholics to A.A. if they are well informed. A.A. does not promote itself, but we can provide accurate information about what we do and do not do.

A.A. members in Berkshire County have made an effort to reach out to local organizations that benefit by knowing how A.A. can help alcoholics. In the last year, presentations have been made at hospitals, nursing associations and trauma centers. There is much more to be done.

Anyone interested in doing this valuable service can contact Michael W. at (917) 696-0823. The Area 31 CPC committee meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. The Zoom ID and password can be found at [area31aa.org](http://area31aa.org). In Faith and Works, Tim McC.

**Did you know?**

There are 113 A.A. World Services videos posted to YouTube.

*Alcoholics Anonymous*, and *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* have been posted on aa.org as audiobooks and can be listened to at no charge. Google aa.org audio big book or aa.org audio 12 & 12.

***Opportunities for service:***

***District 3 Secretary***

A secretary is needed to attend the monthly district meeting, record minutes, and email minutes/information to the GSRs. For more information, the next meeting will be on Friday, August 20 at 7:00 pm. (Zoom ID: 830 1582 5561 Password: 043735).

***Area 31 Committee Positions***

Elections will take place during the Fall Assembly business meeting on Sunday, October 17. The positions for Area 31 are: Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary. Suggested qualifications and duties for these positions can be found in the area handbook which can be viewed and downloaded from [area31aa.org](http://area31aa.org). Eligible members of the area committee and all GSRs in attendance can vote.

***MA State Convention Hospitality Rooms***

Hosts are needed for virtual hospitality rooms during the convention November 13-14. "This position is for fun and fellowship and a great opportunity for anyone to be of service." Anyone interested or looking for more information can email Lisa L. at [district3@area31aa.org](mailto:district3@area31aa.org) or attend the virtual district meeting in August or September to sign up.

***Intergroup Reps***

The role of an Intergroup rep is to bring group concerns, questions or changes to Intergroup meetings and relay information from Intergroup back to the group. Intergroup meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm (Zoom ID: 876 1377 6813 Password: 306885).

***Volunteers for the 12<sup>th</sup> step call list***

Intergroup is looking for people willing to accept calls from the Hotline. A Hotline operator would contact you with the name and number of the person looking for help. Your name and information is NEVER given out to the caller. The operators do their best to match gender and location of the caller with that of the A.A. member. (Please remember the A.A. suggestion is to always bring another sober alcoholic along with you if you are going to meet a caller in person.) If you are interested, leave your name and number with the Berkshire Intergroup office so someone can help you sign up. Intergroup will ask for your name, gender, location and times you are available to accept calls.

***Berkshire Institutions Committee***

To find open commitments, go to the Berkshire Institutions Committee website: <https://sites.google.com/view/berkshireinstitutions>. (A link can be found on the Intergroup website.) For more information, email [berkshireinstitutionscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:berkshireinstitutionscommittee@gmail.com).

***Intergroup Office:***

The Intergroup office is now open Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 1:30 to 4:00.

Intergroup office phone number: (413) 448-2382.

Website: [berkshireaaintergroup.org](http://berkshireaaintergroup.org)

Email address: [berkshireaaintergroup@gmail.com](mailto:berkshireaaintergroup@gmail.com)

Physical address: 152 North Street, Suite 30C, Pittsfield, MA 01201  
Berkshire County AA Hotline number: (413) 443-0212.

News and announcements can be sent to [berkshireintergroupnews@gmail.com](mailto:berkshireintergroupnews@gmail.com).  
For the next issue, please send news and announcements by Monday, September 13.